

Iowa Child and Adult Care Food Program Handy Guide to Creditable Foods

- 1. Creditable foods are used to meet CACFP meal pattern requirements. This list is established by USDA and the lowa CACFP to help assure good nutrition for all participants.
- 2. This is a partial listing of creditable foods for children one year of age and older as sell as adult participants.
- 3. Foods are creditable only if the minimum required quantity of each food component is served. The amount required depends on the age of the participant, the type of meal, the type of food product used and the number served.
- 4. Centers and sponsors of child development homes may make additional restrictions at their discretion. Home providers may contact their sponsor with guestions regarding specific foods or quantities.



Milk and Milk Products

- 1. Milk must be served as a beverage or over cereal. Milk used in cooking may not be credited.
- 2. Milk must be pasteurized fluid milk, fortified with vitamins A and D.
- 3. Participants must be served milk at breakfast and lunch/supper unless an exception statement from a medical authority is on file stating the nature of the problem, listing foods to avoid and alternate foods to be substituted. Serving milk at adult care suppers is optional.
- 4. A separate meal pattern and reimbursable foods list is available and should be followed for infants. CACFP requires that breast milk or iron fortified infant formula be fed until the infant's first birthday. In lowa, current child care center licensing standards require whole milk, formula or breast milk for children under 2 years, unless otherwise directed by a physician. CACFP allows children one month to transition to whole cow's milk after the first birthday. A diet statement is needed to serve formula at or after 13 months of age.

Creditable

Acidified milk (acidophilus)
Buttermilk, cultured milk or kefir
Cow's milk, flavored or unflavored including chocolate
Skim, non-fat or fat free, reduced fat or low fat (1%, 2%), whole
Cocoa – made from fluid milk
Goat's milk
Lactose-reduced milk
Milkshakes – only the milk portion
Soy milk – only if an exception statement is on file and the
nutrients are similar to cow's milk
UHT milk – ultra high temperature (self stable) cow's milk

Non creditable

Cocoa mix made with water

Coffee creamers

Cream

Cream sauce

Cream soup

Custard

Dry milk

Eggnog

Evaporated milk

Half and half

Ice cream

Ice milk

Ice milk Imitation milk

Puddina

Pudding pops

Raw milk (certified or uncertified)

Reconstituted dry milk

Rice milk

Sherbet or sorbet

Sour cream

Soy milk, beverage or drink

Yogurt – creditable only as a meat alternate

for children ages 1-12 years.



Meat and Meat Alternates

- Meats and meat alternates may include lean meat, poultry, fish, cheese, eggs, nuts, seeds, nut or seed butters, cooked dry beans
 or peas, and yogurt. Meats must be inspected by the appropriate health authority. This is a partial list only. A combination of two
 or more meat/meat alternates may be served at the same meal to total the required serving size. In breaded products, only the
 meat portion is counted.
- 2. Meat and meat alternates must be served in the main dish, or in the main dish and one other item.
- 3. At least ¼ ounce or ½ Tablespoon of meat or meat alternate must be served to count as part of the required serving.
- 4. Cooked dry beans or peas may be used either as a vegetable or as a meat alternate, but not both in the same meal.
- 5. Nuts or seeds may be used for up to ½ of the required serving size of the meat/alternate requirement in lunch and supper.
- 6. The best way to determine the amount of meat alternate in commercial combination foods such as canned or frozen stew, beef-a-roni, pizza, pot pie, ravioli or breaded meats like chicken nuggets, or fish sticks is to get a Child Nutrition (CN) label, or a product analysis sheet from the manufacturer (not a distributor or sales person). If you cannot determine the meat/alternate content, additional sources of creditable meats or meat alternates may be added to supplement the meal. If an item is homemade, the recipe should show the amount of meat/alternate.
- 7. Shell fish or nuts may produce food intolerances, especially among preschool or adult participants.

Creditable

Beef jerky – high cost¹ O

Canadian bacon O

Cheese – natural or processed O

Cheese food, spread or substitute

2 oz. = 1 oz. meat alternate O

Corndogs - only the hot dog counts as meat O

Cottage cheese, ricotta cheese

 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. or 2 oz. = 1 oz. meat alternate

Dried peas, beans, lentils, refried beans, soy beans

(canned or cooked from dry $-\frac{1}{4}$ c. = 1 oz. meat alternate)

Eggs – cooked, including deviled eggs

Fish and shellfish – cooked, count only meat portion

Fish sticks – must be at least 60% fish O

Frankfurters – must be all meat, no cereal or extenders O

Liver, kidney, tripe

Lunch meat O – must be all meat, no cereal or extenders (includes bologna, ham, liverwurst, pepperoni, turkey ham,

turkey roll)

Meat analogs²

Peanuts, nuts, seeds, soybeans¹

Peanut, nut, soy or seed butter - regular or reduced fat1

Pizza – creditable if CN labeled or homemade and the amount of meat and cheese is documented.

Quiche – only the meat, cheese or egg portion O

Sausage, Polish, knockwurst, Vienna sausage O

Soups – must be home made with at least ¼ oz. or equivalent of meat/meat alternate per serving to credit

Sov cheese³

Spare ribs – only lean meat portion O

Turkey bacon, if CN labeled O

Vegetable protein/meat protein mixtures²

Yogurt – plain, flavored, low fat, unsweetened or sweetened ½ cup or 4 ounces = 1 ounce meat alternate minimum serving is ½ c.

 \boldsymbol{O} Limit use, since may be high in salt and/or high in saturated fat.

Non creditable

Acorns

Bacon-bits, imitation bacon

Bacon - as in BLT sandwiches

Canned cheese sauce

Cheese product or imitation cheese (Velveeta)

Chestnuts

Coconut

Cream cheese - regular, light (Neufchatel cheese) and fat free

Eggs - raw or undercooked

Fish – home caught

Frozen commercial yogurt products and bars

Game – venison, squirrel, fish etc.

Ham hocks

Home canned meats, home slaughtered meats

Imitation meats and meat alternates (e.g., cheese, crab,

frankfurters, shrimp, etc.)

Oxtails

Pigs' feet, neck bones, tail bones

Pot pies - commercial

Potted, pressed or deviled canned meat

Powdered cheese - as in boxed macaroni and cheese

Salt pork

Scrapple

Sizzlean

Soup - commercial canned

Spam

Tofu, tempeh, seitan

Yogurt covered fruits, nuts

Yogurt – homemade

¹ Choking risk to those under 4 years and the elderly.

² Meat analogs may be up to 100% non-meat protein, and <u>must</u> have a CN label or manufacturer's statement showing the product meets USDA requirements.

³ Soy cheese may have soy protein and/or casein and must have a CN label or a manufacturer's statement showing that the product meets USDA requirements.

Fruits and Vegetables



- Most fruits and vegetables are creditable. Serve a variety and use fresh to add texture and nutrition.
- 2. All commercial juices must be pasteurized. Full strength (100%) juice must be served. Juices labeled "juice", "full strength juice", "100% juice", "single strength juice", "juice from concentrate" or "reconstituted juice" are full strength. Juices that are naturally high in or fortified with vitamin C are recommended.
- 3. At least ½ cup (2 Tablespoons) of fruit or vegetable must be served to each participant in order to count it toward meeting the minimum serving size requirement.
- Juice may count up to ½ of the total fruit/vegetable requirements for lunch or supper.
- Juice may not be served for snack if milk is the only other required food served. 5.
- Two forms of the same food (e.g. apples and apple juice) are not creditable in the same meal.
- Combinations such as fruit cocktail, fruit salad, succotash, mixed vegetables, peas and carrots, stew vegetables and casserole vegetables, count as one fruit/vegetable.

Creditable

Apple cider - must be pasteurized

Baby carrots

Dried peas, beans, lentils, baked beans, refried beans, soy beans (canned or cooked from dry) count as vegetable or meat/meat alternate, but not both at the same meal.)

Chopped vegetables in home made casserole, stew¹

Coleslaw

Cranberry juice blend – if a blend of full strength juices

Cranberry sauce – made with whole cranberries (not jellied)

Dehydrated vegetables – use when re-hydrated

Dried fruit – apricots, dates, figs, prunes, raisins

Frozen juice bars – must be made with 100% fruit and/or juice Fruit cobbler, crisp¹

Fruit cocktail - counts as one fruit

Fruit or vegetable in gelatin or pudding¹

Fruit pie filling - ½ cup filling = ¼ cup fruit

Fruit sauce - homemade¹

Juice, full strength

Juice blends – if a blend of full strength juices

Juice concentrates, reconstituted

Kiwi fruit

Mixed vegetables - counts as one vegetable

Mushrooms

Olives¹

Onion rings^{1, 2}

Pickles¹

Pimentos¹

Pizza sauce or tomato sauce¹

Potatoes

Potato skins

Salsa (all vegetable plus spices)

Soup (tomato or veg) – if commercial, 1 c. soup = $\frac{1}{4}$ c. veg.

Spaghetti sauce¹

Tomato paste – 1 Tbsp. = $\frac{1}{4}$ c. vegetable

Tomato puree – 2 Tbsp. = ¼ c. vegetable

Tomato sauce – 4 Tbsp. or $\frac{1}{4}$ c. = $\frac{1}{4}$ c. vegetable

Vegetable juice blend (e.g., V-8 juice)

Water chestnuts

Limit use, since high in salt and/or high in fat.

Non creditable

Apple butter

Banana chips, commercial

Barbecue sauce

Chili sauce

Coconut

Corn chips

Dry spice mixes

Frozen fruit flavored bars, popsicles

Fruit "drink"

Fruit flavored syrup or powder

Fruit in cookies or grain bars – (e.g., Fig Newtons, grain bars)

Fruit in commercial fruited vogurt

Fruit leather, fruit rollups, fruit shapes

Fruit flavored canned punch (e.g., Hawaiian Punch)

Fruit flavored ice cream

Fruit syrup - from canned fruit

Gummy fruit candy

Home canned fruits and vegetables

Hominy

Honey, syrups, jam, jelly, preserves

Jell-O, gelatin

Juice cocktails (e.g., cranberry, grape, etc.)

Juice drink

Ketchup, condiments and seasonings

Kool-Aid

Lemon pie filling

Lemonade

Nectar (e.g. apricot, peach)

Orangeade

Pizza, commercial² (amount of sauce is insufficient - unless more is added)

Pop tart filling

Popsicles - commercial

Posole

Potato chips, potato sticks

Pudding with fruit - commercial

Raw sprouts

Sherbet, sorbet

Tang

Must have a minimum of 1/8 c. fruit or vegetable per serving. Only the fruit or vegetable portion counts.

² If a commercial product, must have a CN label or manufacturer's specification on file or added fruit/vegetable to supplement the product.

Grains and Breads



- Creditable grains/breads must be whole grain or enriched or made from whole grain or enriched meal and/or flour, bran or germ. Cereals
 must be whole grain, enriched or fortified. Enriched means the product conforms to the FDA's required levels of added iron, thiamin,
 riboflavin, niacin and folic acid.
- 2. The minimum amount a food item can contribute is ¼ serving.
- 3. Since children need nutrient dense foods, sweets may not be credited as grains/breads at lunch and must be limited to no more than twice a week at snack. Sweet food items are indicated with a footnote of 3 or 4.
- 4. How to determine portion sizes for grains/breads:
 - a. Homemade from scratch: (2 alternate methods)
 - The amount of creditable flour, meal, bran or germ (by weight) in the recipe may be calculated to determine the number of grains/breads servings the recipe provides. Directions are on page 2-18 or in the Food Buying Guide starting on page 3-10.
 - A serving of the item may be weighed on a scale (digital preferred) and compared to the required weight on the Grains/Breads Chart on page 2-17. If the serving is too large or too small, the size of the serving should be adjusted and reweighed to achieve the required portion size based on the age(s) of the children being served.
 - b. Homemade from a mix:

A serving of the item must be weighed on a scale and compared to the required weight on the Grains/Breads Chart. If the serving is too large or too small, the size of the serving should be adjusted and reweighed to achieve the required portion size based on the age(s) of the children being served.

- c. Commercially purchased (prepared): (3 alternate methods)
 - Refer to the Nutrition Facts label to determine the weight of a serving and compare to the required weight on the Grains/Breads Chart.
 If the serving on the Nutrition Facts label is larger or smaller than the required serving size, divide the required weight on Grains/Breads Chart by the weight of a serving on the Nutrition Facts label to determine the number of servings needed.
 - A statement from the manufacturer may be obtained. The documentation must indicate how much grain (by weight) or how many grain/bread servings a defined portion provides.
 - If a Nutrition Facts label or statement from the manufacturer is not available, a serving may be weighed on a scale and compared to the
 required weight on the Grains/Breads Chart. If the serving is too large or too small, the size of the serving should be adjusted to meet
 the required portion size based on the age(s) of the children being served.

Johnny cake

Creditable

Banana, carrot, pumpkin, zucchini bread 4 Boston brown bread Bread pudding ^{1, 3} – if homemade (HM) Breading or batter on meats - if CN labeled or amount is known Bread sticks, hard 2 or soft Bread stuffing Cake, cupcakes ³□ Cereal - dry or cooked, 6 gm. of sugar or less is recommended Cereal bars 1, 2, Chips ² – grain based, enriched or whole grain □ Chow mien noodles Cinnamon roll 4 Coffee cake ⁴ Cookies, brownies or bars $^{3,5}\,\square$ Corn pone, hoe cake Corn tortillas Couscous Crackers 5 Cream puff shells ³ \square Crepes Croissants Croutons 2 Doughnuts ⁴ Dumplings Egg roll skins, won ton wrappers English muffins Fig bars (only the cookie part)
Fruit crisp or cobbler crust 1,3,5 Fry bread Gingerbread Graham crackers Grain fruit bars, granola bars 1, 2, 4 Grains – barley, cornmeal, farina, millet, oats, quinoa, rice, wheat Granola cereal $^{1,2}\Box$ Hushpuppies □ Ice cream cones 5 Limit use since may be high in salt and/or high in fat.

Macaroni, noodles, spaghetti and other pasta shapes Macaroni in boxed or homemade macaroni and cheese Pie crust or shell⁵ (dessert pies ³, or in main dish pie) Pita bread Pizza crust Popovers Pretzels, soft and hard² Pop tarts, toaster pastries (only the crust) 4,5 Puff pastry with main dish Quick breads including biscuits, cornbread, muffins Rice cakes 5 Rice pudding 1,3 Scones Snack crackers ² Sopapillas 3 Spoon bread Sweet rolls, buns, pastries ⁴ Taco or tortilla shells ² Tortillas Turnover crust ⁴ \square Vanilla wafers (plain cookies) 3 Waffles

Non creditable

Wheat germ, bran

Caramel corn
Hominy
Nut or seed flour
Popcorn
Potatoes, potato pancakes
(potatoes are credited as a vegetable, not as a grain)
Potato chips, potato sticks
Tapioca

- Only the amount of bread, flour, meal or grain counts.
- ² Hard, dry foods may cause choking.
- ³ Sweet food product-creditable only for snacks.
- Sweet food product-creditable only for snacks and for breakfast
- ⁵ Serving size probably not reasonable.

Grains/Breads^{1, 2} Serving Size Chart

Grain bread products are divided into nine groups according to the serving size needed to provide14.75 grams of flour. When water, fat, sugar, fruit, or nuts are added, a larger serving is needed to provide this amount of flour.

Group A	Group D
1 serving = 20 gm or 0.7 oz ½ serving = 10 gm or 0.4 oz	1 serving = 50 gm or 1.8 oz ½ serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz
Bread type coating	 Doughnuts⁴ (cake and yeast raised, unfrosted)
Bread sticks (hard)	• Granola bars ⁴ (plain)
Chow mien noodles	Muffins (all, except corn)
Crackers (saltines or soda crackers and snack	• Sweet rolls ⁴ (unfrosted)
crackers)	• Sweet quick breads (e.g., banana, pumpkin, zucchini) ⁴
• Croutons ⁷ • Pretzels (hard) ⁷	• Toaster pastries ⁴ (unfrosted)
• Rice cakes, plain	Group E 1 serving = 63 gm or 2.2 oz
• Stuffing, bread portion (dry) ⁷	1/2 serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz
3, 1 111 (1),	
	Cookies ³ (with nuts, raisins, chocolate pieces and/or fruit purees)
Group B	• Doughnuts ⁴ (cake and yeast raised, frosted or
1 serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz ½ serving = 13 gm or 0.5 oz	glazed)
	• French toast
Bagels Batter type coating, breading	• Grain fruit bars ⁴
Batter type coating, breading Biscuits	• Granola bars ⁴ (with nuts, raisins, chocolate
Breads (white, wheat, whole wheat, French,	pieces and/or fruit)
Italian, pumpernickel)	 Rice cakes, with chocolate chips or peanut butter Sweet rolls⁴ (frosted)
Buns (hamburger and hot dog)	• Toaster pastries ⁴ (frosted)
Crackers (graham crackers - all shapes,	Group F
animal crackers)	1 serving = 75 gm or 2.7 oz
Egg roll skins English muffins	½ serving = 38 gm or 1.3 oz
Pita bread (white, wheat, whole wheat)	Cake ³ (plain, unfrosted)
Pizza crust	• Coffee cake ⁴
Pretzels (soft)	Group G
• Rolls (white, wheat, whole wheat, potato)	1 serving = 115 gm or 4 oz
• Tortillas (wheat or corn)	½ serving = 58 gm or 2 oz
Tortilla chips (wheat or corn) Taco or tortilla shells Taco or tortilla shells	• Brownies ³ (plain)
Wonton wrappers	Cake ³ (all varieties, frosted)
	Group H
	1 serving = ½ cup cooked (or 25 gm dry)
	½ serving = ¼ cup
Group C 1 serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz	Barley Breakfast cereals (cooked) ^{5, 6}
1/2 serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz	Bulgur, couscous or cracked wheat
	Macaroni (all shapes)
• Cookies³ (plain)	Noodles (all varieties)
Cornbread, Johnny cake or hushpuppies Corn muffins	Pasta (all shapes)
• Croissants	Ravioli (noodle only)
Pancakes or crepes	Rice (enriched white or brown)
• Pie crust (dessert pies ³ , fruit turnovers ⁴ ,	Group I
and meat/meat alternate pies)	1 serving = $\frac{3}{4}$ cup or 1 oz, whichever is less $\frac{1}{2}$ serving = $\frac{1}{3}$ cup or .5 oz, whichever is less
Waffles	• Ready to eat breakfast cereal (cold dry) ^{5, 6}
	• Cereal bars ^{4, 8}

¹The following foods are whole-grain or enriched or made with enriched or whole-grain meal and/or flour, bran, and/or germ.

² Some of the following foods, or their accompaniments may contain more sugar, salt, and/or fat than others. This should be a consideration when deciding how often to serve them. ³Sweet food product-creditable for snacks only. ⁴Sweet food product-creditable for snacks & breakfasts only. ⁵Breakfast cereals are traditionally served as a breakfast menu item but may be served in meals other than breakfast.

 ⁶ Cereals must be whole-grain, enriched, or fortified; list whole grain, bran or germ as the first ingredient on the label; or meet the nutrient criteria described in CACFP memo CS-2007-9/IC-2007-9.
 7 Choking risk.
 8 To count as one full serving of grains/breads, a cereal bar must contain ¾ cup or 1 ounce of the cereal, whichever is less.
 Commercial cereal bars may not be automatically credited; further documentation must be obtained.
 Crediting will depend on the amount or weight of the ready-to-eat cereal in each cereal bar as documented by the manufacturer.



How much to serve?

Common Grain/Bread Servings

Read labels and look for lower fat, salt and sugar choices. Some foods listed are not appropriate for younger children or

elderly due to risk of choking.

Food	Serving Size		Cost*
	1-5 yr	6 yr-adult	full serving
Animal crackers-store brand	5	9	.08
Bagel – 3 oz.	1/6	1/3	.05
Bread – store brand	½ slice	1 slice	.05
Cereal, cooked – store brand	1⁄4 C.	½ C.	.03
Cereal, Cheerios	3∕8 C.	³∕₄ C.	.22
Cheez-it snack crackers	9	18	.20
Chips Ahoy cookies	3	6	.36
Corn Chips – store brand, yellow round	5	10	.08
Ritz snack crackers	3	6	.11
English muffin – split	1/4	1/2	.22
Fish crackers	19	36	.20
Graham crackers – national brand	1 sheet (2 squares)	2 sheets (4 squares)	.13
Graham crackers – store	1 sheet	2 sheets	.07
brand	(2 squares)	(4 squares)	
Grain/fruit bars – Nutrigrain	1	2	.77
Granola Bar, with chocolate chips – Sunbelt	1	2	.47
Granola Bar, plain – Nature Valley	2/3	11⁄4	.52
Toaster Pastry, plain (52 g)	1/2	1	.20
Toaster Pastry, frosted (50 g)	3/4	11⁄4	.20
Pretzels – store brand			
Ring – small	6	12	.06
Ring – large	3	5	.06
Stick	12	23	.06
Saltines – national brand	4	7	.09
Saltines – store brand	4	7	.04
Oyster cracker –store brand	26	51	.04
Teddy grahams – plain	10	20	.25
Tortilla	1/2	1	.10
Triscuits	3	6	.19
Vanilla Wafers – national brand	4	8	.32
Wheat Thins	6	11	.19
Wheatsworth	4	7	.21

^{*}Approximate prices at Fareway in central lowa, 8/07. Instead of counting out crackers, you can put the correct amount in a measuring cup and scoop out the serving.



Fruit & Vegetable Yields

Serving sizes and yields are approximate

Serving sizes and yields are approximate		
Vegetable	Yield	
Carrot sticks	6 sticks = ½ cup	
½" x 4"	3 sticks = 1/4 cup	
Baby Carrots	1 lb =10, ¼ cup servings	
Cauliflower - 1 med head	6 cups flowerets	
Celery sticks	6 sticks = ½ cup	
½" x 4"	3 sticks = 1/4 cup	
Cucumber sticks	6 sticks = ½ cup	
³⁄₄" x 3"	3 sticks + 1/4 cup	
Lettuce (bag)	1/4 cup servings per lb	
Iceberg only	29	
Salad mix (mostly iceberg)	26	
Salad mix (mixed lettuce)	25	
Tomatoes		
Cherry	5 halves = 1/4 cup	
1/4" slices	2 slices = 1/4 cup	
Fruit	Yield	
Apples (125-138 ct)	½ apple = ½ cup	
Bananas (regular)	½ banana = ¼ cup	
Juice (12 oz. can	12 – ½ cup servings	
concentrate)	8 – ¾ cup servings	
Juice (46 oz. can)	11 – ½ cup servings	
	7 – ¾ cup servings	
Oranges (138 ct)	1 orange = ½ cup	

Crediting Grain/Bread Recipes

Grain Product	Weight of 1 cup (grams)	
Cheerios	28 g	
Corn Chex	30 g	
Corn Flakes (crushed)	80 g	
Rice Chex	33 g	
Rice Krispies	24 g	
Corn meal (regular)	122 g	
Cake flour ¹	111 g	
All purpose flour ¹	125 g	
Bread flour ¹	123 g	
Whole wheat flour ¹	120 g	
Oats (uncooked)	81 g	

Unsifted flour, spooned into measuring cup.

Homemade Recipe Example: Cornbread

The grain items in the recipe are 1 cup of cornmeal and 1 cup of all purpose flour.

1. Total the grams of grain in the recipe

1 cup corn meal = 122 g + 1 cup flour = 125 g Total = 247 g grains

2. Divide the total grain by the grams of grain needed to make one serving (14.75 grams).

247÷14.75 = 16.7 servings of grain in the recipe

Serves 16 school-aged children (6-12 years) and 32 children ages 1-5. You may serve more if desired.